This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

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DEPARTMENT FOR INR/R/MR, EUR/SE, EUR/PD, NEA/PD, DRL JCS PASS J-5/CDR S. WRIGHT

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: OPRC KMDR TU

SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES BRIEFING EDITORIAL OPINION

HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL
Mayor of Fallujah vows to resist Turks in Iraq Milliyet
U.S. confident it can convince IGC on Turkish
peacekeepers - Sabah
Barzani warns of civil war if Kurds' denied a
federation - Hurriyet
Turkey prefers north of Baghdad for peacekeeping Turkiye
U.S. delegations in Ankara to thank GOT - Milliyet
Greece, Turkey cancel military exercises - Hurriyet

OPINION MAKERS

Fallujah objects to Turkish troops- Radikal
Barzani warns U.S., Turkey - Cumhuriyet
Erdogan: We're not going to Iraq as police force Cumhuriyet
Iraqi FM Zebari: Turkish troops to be deployed away
from Kurds - Yeni Safak
Suicide attack on Iraqi police - Radikal
U.S. can't break IGC resistance against Turkish troops
- Zaman
Suicide attack rocks Baghdad: 10 dead - Zaman
Gul, Papandreou announce cancellation of military
exercises - Cumhuriyet

BRIEFING

Turkish peacekeepers to Iraq: In an effort to bypass the Kurdish region controlled by the KDP for passage of Turkish troops into Iraq, Ankara wants to open a new border crossing in Ovakoy, southeast of the Habur gate. Ovakoy is 15 km away from the Habur border crossing and 12 km away from Silopi, where Ankara is planning to set up a military logistics center. The U.S. Ambassador to Ankara, Eric Edelman, and MFA U/S Ambassador Ugur Ziyal discussed the issue on Thursday. The U.S. is positive about the new Turkish initiative, "Hurriyet" claims. If Ovakoy is opened, Turkish troops will use the Fays Khabur-Ain Zallah-Mosul route to reach their destination in the Sunni zone of Iraq.

Security in Iraq: Papers note the increasing terrorist attacks against civilian figures in Iraq, including the assassination of a Spanish diplomat yesterday. Anti-Turkish sentiment within Iraqi Kurdish groups continues as well, as expressed most recently in a statement by KDP leader Barzani. Papers note that not only Kurdish figures, but also others in the Iraqi Governing Council do not want the Turkish army to be in charge anywhere in Iraq. These reports, however, were combined with reports of U.S. assurances by Secretary Rumsfeld and Secretary Powell that the Iraqis can be persuaded on

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the need for Turkish troops.

Congressional Delegations in Ankara: Papers and

television stations carried the visits to Ankara by two Congressional delegations. Reports highlighted the visits of delegations headed by Congressmen Saxton and Senator McConnell, describing them as "the first contact with Washington following the parliamentary authorization for the deployment of Turkish troops in Irag."

EDITORIAL OPINION: Iraq-Turkish forces to Iraq

"The Difficult Thing in Iraq"
Hasan Cemal commented in the mass appeal "Milliyet":
"Stability and order in Iraq is something that Turkey,
Iraq, and the Middle East all need. Could Arabs
possibly say otherwise? Could the Kurds want chaos in
Iraq? I don't think so. No one benefits from chaos -neither Arabs nor Kurds. It is possible that their
historical memory may disturb Arabs. However, what is
important here is to establish order and the stability
in Iraq as soon as possible, and for Turkey to play a
constructive role in this process. Iraq is important
for Turkey and Turkey is important for Iraq. A new
Iraq means an end to occupation and the development of
an independent, sovereign, peaceful neighbor with its
own natural resources -- a stable Iraq open to
democracy. This will open a new door. Now Turkey has
the key to this door in its hand. Turkey must use this
key carefully, without antagonizing the Arabs or the
Kurds. Turkey must see the complete picture, the
greater Middle East, and the sensitivity on the issue
of coordination with the US. It must consider the
balances between the US and the EU in a way that will
give some meaning to its own geopolitical position, and
then use this key. The motion passed the parliament
easily. However, things are more difficult now, and
the situation requires more skill."

EDELMAN